

## Thomas Butler to Andrew Jackson, August 4, 1804, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### THOMAS BUTLER TO JACKSON.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Butler was born in 1754.

Farm, August 4, 1804.

*Dr. Genl.* Your favor of the 3rd. inst. I received with pleasure, and now return you its inclosure, and sinserely thank you for the sentiments of friendship which it contains. I was sorry to find on my arrival in Town, that you had sprained your knee, I hope it will soon be well.

In your note of the 3rd. you request me to give you such ideas as might have occurred to me on the subject of your letter. I assure you, General, the injuries that I have received, have been so many, and heaped on me with a premeditated intention to injure, that my mind is not in a state to think deliberately on the subject; permit me Just to observe, that you are so competant to Judge of the etiquette, and strength of language in which a subject of that nature may be offered to the chief magistrate that it would be improper in me to offer a sentiment on the occasion.

I have made two small alterations, they are designed to keep clear of the orders of the 22nd. and 23d. of June, and that of the 9th. of July. I would also beg leave to observe, should it meet your ideas, that it would comport with mine; that I should obey the order of the 9th. ulto., by a commencement of my Journey to Orleans, before the communication should be forwarded to the President. this step would shew my perfect obedience to the order, and give the secretary of war time to answer my letter of the 9th. of June, should he

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be so disposed, and will establish one other point, that he had suffered me to depart under the impression that I complained of, and to prevent which, I had solicited his interposition. of this Sir, you will please exercise your own good Judgement.

I am preparing as fast as possible, not having expected that I should have been so unreasonably ordered to proceed to such a distant post, with no alternative but by land, I shall find my movement difficult, but my pride ever has, and I hope will still support me; my pursuits in life have been Honorable, I may be put to trouble but no man or set of men can ultimately injure me. I shall do myself the honor to wait on you shortly, and must accept of your kind offer of the Horse, as the prospect of another has vanished.

My respects to Mrs. Jackson, I remain Dr. Genl. your Humbl. Servt.